



## **Third High School Site**

*On March 15, 2005, voters approved a Bond Referendum for \$39.6 million to build a third high school.*

### **NOW WHAT ... Is The Next Step?**

In order for the project to move forward at the site on Route 605, which was unanimously approved by the School Board, the Board of Supervisors must approve:

- A Comprehensive Plan Amendment adding the new high school adjacent to the New Baltimore area
- Special Exceptions to allow use of this site for a school and the addition of an above-ground pumping facility

The Board of Supervisors will discuss the proposed site one final time at a work session on Thursday, June 9. They are seeking input from the public until that time.

### **SO WHAT ... Does That Mean to Me?**

Citizens are encouraged to contact all members of the Board of Supervisors and the School Board to voice their opinion about the Route 605 site, either pro or con. The voice of Fauquier County citizens will likely determine if the project moves forward on the planned timeline.

### **BUT WHAT ... Are the Site Issues?**

Primary site issues for consideration are these:

- Cost Factors
- Development Factors
- Equity Factor
- Safety Factors

### **AND WHAT ... Are the Facts?**

#### **Cost Factors**

- 74 acres at Wesfield Farm on Rt. 605 were accepted as gift from Ed Miller as a potentially very good site for a high school. There are 26.4 usable acres at this site; VDOE recommends 25 minimum usable acres for a high school site.

- All other sites considered require additional funds for purchase.
- Any property in New Baltimore Service District will have significant price tag.
- Costs for property not budgeted, nor part of Bond Referendum
- Impact of delay
  - √ Additional trailer costs exceeding \$926,000 if opening delayed until after fall 2008
  - √ Additional utility costs if high schools schedule shifts
  - √ Bids coming in higher
  - √ Interest rates rising

(Please see the reverse)



## **AND WHAT ... Are the Facts?**

### **Development Factors**

- Comprehensive Plan allows extension of water and sewer service only for school with no other connections allowed.
- Extension of utilities outside Service District are not without precedent (Lord Fairfax Community College, Marshall Middle School, Coleman Elementary School) and additional "leap-frog" development did not occur

### **Equity Factor**

- Comparable acreage to existing high schools: 78 acres at Fauquier High and 100 acres at Liberty High (includes Grace Miller Elementary)

### **Safety Factors**

- Reducing distance students drive minimizes potential for accidents. Within New Baltimore Service District, student farthest from LHS is driving 17.6 miles and student farthest from FHS is driving 7.6 miles. Student farthest from HS-3\* would drive 9 miles.
- Students have less travel time in cars/buses.
- Both high schools currently contain more students than they were designed to handle.
- VDOT Road Improvements for Rt. 605 are part of Six-Year Improvement Plan.
- County and School Division have applied for funding from state in revenue-sharing program for Rt. 605 improvements.
- School Division will request addition of road improvements for Rt. 605 to Board of Supervisors' Top 10 Priorities List.
- Traffic Signals: One to be added at entrance to HS-3 directly across from entrance to Rock Springs which will direct HS-3 exiting traffic right or left; second signal to be installed at Riley Road and synchronized with HS-3 signal; third anticipated at Rt. 602 in year 2014
- Right-of-way needed to four-lane Rt. 605 in front of HS-3 will not impact property of residents in Rock Springs subdivision (120 feet to be designated right-of-way on school property)

\* HS-3 = Third High School

## **SAY WHAT ... If I Have an Opinion?**

No more public hearings will be held. However, the chairman of the Board of Supervisors said this to citizens at the final public hearing regarding the Route 605 site for the third high school:

*"...make sure you get to your supervisors and tell them what you think between now and the next board meeting (Thursday, June 9)."*

**All interested citizens are strongly encouraged to contact the Board of Supervisors by telephone at (540) 347-8680 or by email at [BOS@fauquiercounty.gov](mailto:BOS@fauquiercounty.gov) to offer an opinion, pro or con, on the third high school site.**